

# *Buffalo Lutheran & St. Paul's Lutheran Churches*

## **JUNE – JULY 2015 PARISH POST**

### ***Comments from Pastor Chris . . .***

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

There is something of a misunderstanding about what the Church is and why she gathers her members together on Sundays. Many present the Church as a movement, others an institution. Some see the Church as a simple gathering of people. To be blunt, the Church is not a movement. This false notion has done no small amount of damage to our Christian congregations. When one conceives of the Church as a movement, one mires her hopelessly in politics. When the Church is mired in politics, she cares more for her cultural prestige than for her faithfulness to our Lord Jesus Christ. The movement Church is drug around by the winds of the culture, conveniently changing whenever the social values of the society around her do in order to keep hold of her precious social capital. However, the Church is not a movement. She is an institution. Institutions have bounds, responsibilities, and goals. Movements are focused on the expedient for the sake of social capital; institutions seek to stay faithful to their founding.

This is all a way of saying that the Church is something founded by Jesus Himself, set up to do certain things (preach the Gospel and administer the Sacraments), and has appointed people who are responsible for these things (pastors). Institutions endure, movements only last as long as the collective will of their members does. Our Lord promises that His Church will last forever (Matthew 16:18).

So, then, why do we gather together? Some would say that it is to praise and worship God. Others think the duty of Christian assembly is to focus on our fellowship. Some see this time as a period of evangelism, others a period for encouraging the faithful to take up good works. Some try to create an atmosphere to support peoples' faith. Some take the time for teaching. Some use it for positive thinking and self-help clichés. So, what is it then? The Church gathers to receive from Christ what he has to offer us: his preached Word, Baptism, the Lord's Supper, and the forgiveness of sin – assurance for those who suffer under the sin of this age. This is not, in its primary focus, a human enterprise. At the heart of the thing is the self-giving Lord who seeks to console the lost and redeem the sinful by imparting salvation through his chosen means; means which are only available through the Church and not to us who refuse to gather. Our need for Christ is everlasting, our hunger for the Bread of Life is ongoing. When we gather together on Sundays and other times, remember that for this reason the Christian Church assembles: to receive what Christ seeks to give. Everything else is secondary.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Chris

## FINANCIAL NEWS TO NOTE!

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### BUFFALO LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 24 General fund Balance \$4,381.41  
Parish Nurse Fund Balance \$ 423.10\*

### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 24 General fund balance \$ 13.19  
Unpaid bills \$216.81

\*We have been able to pay the \$300 per month that we are committed to (contingent on having the funds available from donations), for the past six months.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Divine Sunday Services will be held at 9:00 AM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in June and July. (see more details on the calendar re: **July 19 details.**)

***Pastoral guidance and individual confession are available before Wednesday Services or by appointment with the pastor. You can contact him at 749-2309 or 701-710-0446. His e-mail address is [cbrademeyer@gmail.com](mailto:cbrademeyer@gmail.com)***

- ☀ **"Construction Zone: God at Work"**, our Vacation Bible School, is offered June 14 (3-6 PM)-June 15 and June 16(9 AM-3 PM) (ages 4-Grade 6) at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. A team from Red Willow will lead Bible School this year. Please talk to Sarah Besette to get more Bible School details at 701-318-9614 or email her at [sbesette79@gmail.com](mailto:sbesette79@gmail.com)
- ☀ **Monday, June 8:** Upcoming class regarding "The Basics: Memory Loss, Dementia, and Alzheimer's Disease" at 1 PM & 6 PM at Carlson Public Library at 2801 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave S, in Fargo.
- ☀ **Tuesday, June 16:** You're invited to "Friends of Red Willow Appreciation Dinner & Volunteer Recognition" featuring High Plains Trio at Red Willow Ministries Ofstedal Retreat Center and Memorial Chapel. There will be a 6 PM dinner and a 7 PM program, RSVP by June 9 at 701-676-2681 or [RWBC.OFFICEMGR@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RWBC.OFFICEMGR@GMAIL.COM)
- ☀ **Upcoming:** Red Willow Bible Camp Fundraiser Quilt & Fine Art Auction with the Auction Preview, Saturday, August 22, and the Auction Day on Sunday, August 23, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. Watch for details!
- ☀ **Confirmation** - - Our young people were confirmed May 31. Received by Buffalo Lutheran Church was Dustin Kasowski and received by St. Paul's Lutheran Church was Katlyn Plecity, Hunter Smith, and Noah Olson.

† **Baptism Blessings:** Baptized at Buffalo Lutheran Church on May 3 was Greyson Stewart, son of Kyle and Eileen Stewart. Baptized also at Buffalo Lutheran Church, on May 10, was Ryan Dahl, son of Bradley and Danielle Dahl.

### † **May they rest in peace!**

- ☀ May we remember with prayers of sympathy the Annis George, Jackie Marcks' sister's family. She passed away April 15 and a service in her Memory was held May 15.
- ☀ May Kate Kaim's family be remembered with sympathy. She passed away May 11 and her funeral was held May 14.
- ☀ May we keep Marlys Miller's family in prayers of sympathy. She died May 19 and her funeral was held May 26.

## **JUNE PARISH NURSE NOTES— Walk-In or ER?**

Dear Family and Friends,

Often times I am asked by clients where should they go to be treated for a particular medical issue. Here are some helpful information tips from a local hospital. When a sudden illness or injury occurs, you want excellent medical care-fast.

### **Visit a Walk-In Clinic when you have:**

Sore throat  
Earache  
Cold/flu symptoms  
Cough  
Sinus or respiratory infection  
Sprain or strain  
Small cuts  
Back pain  
Migraine  
Dizziness  
Rash  
Urinary tract infection  
Minor burns

### **Visit the ER when you have:**

Chest Pain  
Stroke Symptoms  
Uncontrolled Active Bleeding  
Severe vomiting and/or diarrhea  
Burns (other than minor)  
Drug overdosing/poisoning  
Shortness of Breath  
Heart Palpitations/rhythm disturbances  
Seizure  
Suspected broken bone(s)  
Head injury with/without consciousness  
Allergic reaction  
Trauma

With any **severe illness** or **injury** a person should go to their local ER! The Walk-In clinic and ER are not intended to treat chronic conditions. Please see your personal doctor in those cases.

**In case of emergency call 911.** I hope that this information will clarify some of your questions and concerns.

Peace in Him,

Gwen Fraase RN Parish Nurse

Community Health Ministry

[Sanfordhealth.org](http://Sanfordhealth.org)

### **Beyond Our Walls - - Bethany Retirement Center**

Did you know...

...nearly two dozen worship services are conducted at Bethany Retirement Living each month? Bethany's Chaplain, Pastor Phil Larson, leads Sunday worship and monthly Communion worship at both campuses. Additionally, he offers worship on Thursday mornings for residents in the Memory Care Unit. Catholic Mass is celebrated each Friday at Bethany on University and Tuesdays at Bethany on 42<sup>nd</sup>. Pastor Larson and many of our residents' home clergy offer personal spiritual support. We also offer weekly Bible studies at each campus. To find out more about Bethany's Chaplaincy program or to assist with worship, contact Bethany at 701.239.3234.

Buffalo & Tower City Lutheran Parish  
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## UPCOMING JUNE AND JULY EVENTS

**JUNE AND JULY DIVINE SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH SUNDAYS AT 9:00 AM. (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SUNDAY, JULY 19 WHEN A 9:00 AM DIVINE SERVICE WILL BE HELD AT BUFFALO LUTHERAN CHURCH AND A COMMUNITY ECUMENICAL CHURCH SERVICE WILL BE HELD AT 10:30 AT THE OLD BUFFALO SCHOOL.)**

June 10: Buffalo Lutheran Council meets at 7 PM

June 14: Thrivent Informational Meeting 10 -11 AM at St. Paul's

June 14,15,16: Construction Zone: God at Work; June 14-3-6 PM, June 15 and 16:9 AM-3 PM

June 16: FRIENDS OF RED WILLOW APPRECIATION DINNER & VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION—6 PM dinner, 7 PM program, RSVP by June 9.

June 20: Thrivent RedHawks Game at Newman Field, Fargo, 5 PM-10 PM (check with your Thrivent rep for details)

June 28: Sheyenne Valley Chaplaincy Council Fundraiser at Bjornson Golf Park,Valley City (starting at 1 PM)

July 6-July 10: Pastor Chris on vacation

July 17, 18, 19: **SHUFFLE OFF to BUFFALO**

July 19: Please note the worship schedule as listed at the beginning of the calendar.

Take note of council meeting times.